

January 7, 1956

Dr. Wolfram Heumann
Bot. Inst., Techn. Hochsch.
Braunschweig, Humboldtstr. 1,
Germany

Dear Dr. Heumann:

Thank you for your letter and curriculum vitae, which is precisely what I needed. I will supply whatever affirmation of your applications for support that may be required.

Thank you also for the cultures which have just arrived. Under separate cover, I have mailed the strains mentioned in the enclosed notice and I am enclosing more detailed directions for their use. I will be interested to hear more of the conjugating bacteria to which your last letter referred briefly.

I have mentioned your correspondence to my good friend and colleague, Professor P. W. Wilson. He told me of his previous interchange with you on the possibility of nitrogen-fixation by rhizobia in vitro. He is pleased to learn of the possibility of your visit, and hopes you will take the occasion to bring with you whatever material may be helpful in reproducing your findings. He will be very pleased to continue experiments with N^{15} to attempt the confirmation of your results.

Altogether, I am looking forward to a fruitful collaboration, and await further news of your plans and the success of your applications. In the event the competition for other awards is too stringent, I would suggest that you ask the Rockefeller Foundation for information on the possibility of support from them. The U.S. Educational Foundation in Germany can doubtless give you information and advice on these matters; I assume they would be addressed c/o the U.S. Embassy.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics

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